



**MÖNCHENGLADBACH
GERMANY 2006**

news

First Mens World Cup in Germany

Germany's first national hockey stadium, the Warsteiner HockeyPark in Mönchengladbach, is the scene of the BDO field hockey World Championship for men from 6 until 17 September 2006. The twelve best nations in the world will battle for the crown of hockey.



Matthias Witthaus (front) and Tibor Weibenborn (behind, during the EC against Belgium) were also part of the WC winning German team of 2002

Host Germany begins this Championship as title defender. The team of national trainer Bernhard Peters had been able to win the World Cup title 2002 in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) for the first time in German history. The 11th levy of the world title battles since 1971 is the first World Championship for men that takes place in Germany. Until now the German hockey association (DHB) only hosted a World Championship a single time, exactly 30 years ago in Berlin, where the second ladies World Championship was held.

The organization committee expects the stadium, with approximately 14.000 seats, to be sold out during the finals-weekend and at the highpoints of the group phase. Hockey fans from all over the world have announced themselves in Mönchengladbach, especially many from the hockeyenthusiast neighbouring country of the Netherlands, whose eastern border is only a fifteen minutes drive by car

away from the World Cup venue in Mönchengladbach.

Els van Breda-Vriesmann, the president of the world hockey association (FIH) has already paid the Warsteiner HockeyPark a first visit in the beginning of March. She said: I am very impressed with the new stadium. Especially impressive I find the distribution concept of the coloured seats. I have the feeling that we will experience a real family happening, where each age group will feel at home.

Patron of the BDO World Cup Men is the President of the German Federal Republic Horst Köhler. In January soccer legend Franz Beckenbauer, responsible for the organization of the FIFA soccer world championship 2006, that will be held in Germany also, three months before the hockey World Cup, received the first Guest Of Honour Card from the organization. Beckenbauer then already confirmed his presence in Mönchengladbach.

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+++ The World Cup tournament begins with a preliminary from 6 until 13 September, in which the twelve participants, divided into two groups of six, will play in the mode „each against each“. The best two teams of each group will reach the semi finals on the 15th of September. On that 15 and 16 September moreover a positioning round will take place around the places five to twelve. The final and the match for third place are played on the 17th of September. +++

+++ Tickets for the BDO Hockey World Cup Men 2006 can be ordered on the website of the official ticketing partner Ticket-online (www.ticket-online.de) or by telephone + 49 (0) 1805 – 4470 (12 eurocents per minute). Currently only tournament tickets are available, priced at 200,- Euro.(discountprice valid until April 30th) After the BDO qualification tournament, that runs until the 23rd of April in China and in which the last five starting places will be issued, the playing schedule will be completed. After that, also day tickets can be acquired. +++

+++ The official website for the BDO World Cup Men 2006 reads www.hockeyworldcup.de. Here hockey fans can find all information to the tournament as well as to the participating nations. During the tournament, the website (in English and German) among other things becomes the information channel of all parties, features game reports, pictures and many extras. +++

+++ The matches of the BDO World Cup Men 2006 are transmitted all over the world. An international signal will be made available by the German hockey association (DHB) through a host broadcaster. In Germany, beside the public broadcasters ARD and ZDF, primarily the West German Broadcasting Company (WDR) will transmit the matches. +++

BDO HOCKEY WORLD CUP MEN



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Welcome +++ Topstars +++ Participants +++ Wa



Willkommen +++ Topstars +++ Teilnehmer +++ M

Editorial...



The Deutscher Hockey-Bund is proud and excited to be host of the BDO Hockey World Cup Men, which will be held from 6 to 17 September 2006 in Mönchengladbach. We thank the International Hockey Federation for the confidence which they expressed with the assignment of this high level tournament to the DHB. Everything will be done to accomplish this tournament on the highest level. To be able to experience a world championship in your own country is the greatest thing for sport fans - for the active ones it is something unique, something of which sportsmen will later tell their grandchildren. Also the impressive new stadium, the Warsteiner HockeyPark, which will be inaugurated Easter 2006 with a four-nation tournament, will surely contribute to this. The German hockey family will do all possible efforts to prepare unforgettable days for the sport friends from all over the world who come to visit the World Cup. Numerous international meetings, parents -, leisure and schoolhockeytournaments will frame the championship. This will give all hockeyfans a platform to meet new friends. The BDO hockey World Cup Men 2006 will become a meeting for the entire family, because it is the generations connecting component, which is so particularly in our sport. I invite you to come to Mönchengladbach and experience together with us this absolute Hockey highlight. It would make me happy to welcome you at the BDO Hockey World Cup Men 2006.

Stephan Abel
President
Deutscher Hockey-Bund

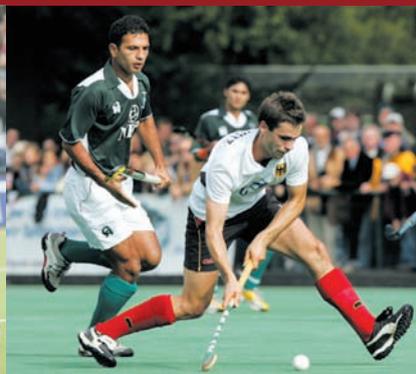
Most modern hockey stadium in the world



You can certainly speak of a jewel, if it concerns the Warsteiner HockeyPark. The venue of the 11th BDO Hockey World Cup Men 2006 in Mönchengladbach (Germany) is finished in March of this year and offers both fans and players an impressive atmosphere. FIH president Els van Breda even called the arena the most beautiful Hockeystadium of the World, during her first attendance.

Exactly 9.046 multicoloured seats give the Warsteiner HockeyPark its unmistakable appearance. During the World Cup two additional grandstands will bring the total number of seats to 14.000. The multicoloured feature is based on the examples from the LTU arena in Düsseldorf and the indoor ball stadium in Frankfurt. The six colours (three blue tones, two yellow tones and one orange tone), which also can be found in the logo of the stadium's executive company, have been especially

selected for the Hockey stadium. A computer program calculated the colour distribution of the seats. The sequence appears arbitrary, but nowhere are two seats of the same colour arranged directly over or next to each other. 'The psychological effect that results from this multicoloured appearance is that the stadium already appears fully occupied, even when there are no spectators', says the stadium's managing director Michael Hilgers. 'Because in the context of the World Championship we will also have days on which the arena will not be fully occupied, it nevertheless always provides a good atmosphere.' The HockeyPark Sports Bar offers a special treat: Apart from the classic design features in the interior the fans can also decide for a place on the enormous terrace, which offers a complete and unique view over the stadium. Here each visitor surely can find his own personal lodge"



'Who is who' in hockey land

Seven of the twelve participating nations have already qualified for the BDO Hockey World Cup Men 2006. The other five will have to qualify in the BDO World Cup Qualifier, played 12 - 23 April in China. Already qualified are the five continental winners Australia, India, Argentina, South Africa and Spain, with the Netherlands and Germany.

Australien ist der Olympiasieger Australia is the Olympic winner of Athens 2004 and the current holder of the Champions Trophy, the annual tournament of the six best nations of the World. The first on the world ranking list is considered one of the favourites in Mönchengladbach, even though the 'Kookaburras' won their last world title 20 years ago. Africa's continental master South Africa (WRL place 10), Pan American Champion Argentina (8th), record Olympic winner India (6th) and European Champion Spain (4th) are all teams in the current Top Ten on the official Sahara world ranking list. World ranking list third, Germany, is title defender at the Worldcup.

The Netherlands, second on the list, won Olympic silver in Athens. They just missed first place against

Australia because of a golden goal in the extension period. The line up for the BDO World Championship now already reads like the 'Who is who' of world hockey. A further five top nations will be added after the BDO Qualifier in China. In Changzhou also twelve nations will compete for the five World Cup starting tickets. In group A Belgium, Canada, Egypt, England, Ireland and record world champion Pakistan will meet. In group B China, France, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea and New Zealand will compete against each other. The results and rankings will be on the internet on the FIH website www.worldhockey.org. Meanwhile India, Spain, Argentina and Germany will be in Mönchengladbach from 15 - 17 April, to inaugurate the Warsteiner HockeyPark with a four-nation tournament.

The Star players of the teams already qualified

Jamie Dwyer (26, Australia)

The World Hockey Player of the Year 2004 scored the goal that brought Australia the gold medal in the Olympic final from Athens. Dwyer has an extremely hard and accurate shot and can score from almost every angle. After the victory of the Australian team at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, a few weeks ago, the 26 year old absolutely wants to stand on top of the podium too at the World Cup 2006 in Germany (Mönchengladbach).

Teun de Nooijer (30, Netherlands)

The two times Word Hockey Player of the Year (2003 and 2005) among the experts still counts as the most complete participant of them all. With his club, HC Bloemendaal, de Nooijer in this year is one of the first candidates to win the title in the Dutch Premier League. For the World Cup 2006 in Germany with the Dutch team he also ranks among the top favourites. The Netherlands' largest successes: Olympic winner in 1996 and 2000, World Champion in 1998, Olympic silver in 2004.

Santiago Freixa (22, Spain)

Despite his relatively young age (22) the penalty corner specialist of Atletico Terrassa can already show big successes: Vice-European Champion 2003, Champion Trophy winner 2004, European Champion 2005, Best Player of the European Championship 2005. Together with Pol Amat, Santiago Freixa forms one of the most dangerous attackers duo in the world.

Christopher Zeller (21, Germany)

The 21-year old goal getter is considered as one of the most dynamic and dangerous attackers of the world. Beside his penalty corners, above all the solo runs of the German Hockey Player of the Year 2005 are feared. Zeller, with the German team, became European Champion in 2003 and won the Olympic bronze medal in Athens in 2004.



Spanish Superstar Santiago Freixa in a duel with Dutch goal keeper Guus Vogels.

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World Cup finals from the past

1971 in Barcelona	Pakistan	– Spain	1:0
1973 in Amsterdam	Netherlands	– India	6:4
1975 in Kuala Lumpur	India	– Pakistan	2:1
1978 in Buenos Aires	Pakistan	– Netherlands	3:2
1981/82 in Bombay	Pakistan	– Germany	3:1
1986 in London	Australia	– England	2:1
1990 in Lahore	Netherlands	– Pakistan	3:1
1994 in Sydney	Pakistan	– Netherlands	5:4
1998 in Utrecht	Netherlands	– Spain	3:2
2002 in Kuala Lumpur	Germany	– Australia	2:1

Record World Cups holder: Pakistan (four World Cup titles)

...Various... Various... Vari-

+++ The BDO Hockey World Cup Men will yield a colorful 'Get together' of the most varying cultures. The concept of 'Nations Days' plans that each of the eleven play-days is presented by one of the eleven guest-nations of the World Championship. The country is presented not only on the video wall in the stadium, but also by dancing groups during the half-time-shows, as well as through individual culinary specialties and through special promotion stands in the public-area. An after match-party attuned to the respective nation rounds off each Nations Day. +++

+++ An especially charming linking to the BDO World Championship is planned for the schools in the vicinity of Mönchengladbach. In 13 schools in Mönchengladbach, an entire age-group (about 100 schoolchildren in the age between 10 and 14 years) will develop it's own ideas how it respectively can present and support a nation in the World Championship. Each team finds therefore an already well prepared fan-group on its arrival in Germany. A large schoolhockey tournament is organized also in the frame of the program. +++

+++ In Krefeld, only a few kilometers of Mönchengladbach, a large international parents hockey tournament is organized parallel to the World Championship. The parents hockey, almost without exception leisure time players (men and women), who come to the hockey through their children, is a steadily growing very active movement in the hockey-sport in Germany. +++

Welcome in Mönchengladbach

The North Rhine metropolis is the ideal mixture of productive business location and pleasant, greenfilled city. Traditionally, Mönchengladbach stands for the textile and clothing industries, but today the economic image of the city is defined by a modern mix of industries such as the service industry, mechanical engineering, information and communications technology. And in the midst of it all is pure, untainted nature, strewn with cultural sights and a wide range of athletic opportunities.

In addition to the Bundesliga football club Borussia Mönchengladbach, hockey plays a very special role here thanks to the renowned clubs GHTC and RSV, making it a significant sport within the city, the region and throughout Germany.

The vision of the new city area Nordpark is becoming ever more real with the two stadiums Borussia-Park and Warsteiner HockeyPark. Along with the athletic centre, the transformation from a military grounds to an attractive city region has now begun with residential and commercial real estate that is already in high demand.

Trade and industry understand the advantages of the city of Vitus with its location at the intersection of three countries: Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands. The first-class infrastructure with numerous autobahn connections, train stations and the airport are as much a part of this as the local university. But there are also many reasons for spending your free time in Mönchengladbach. Idyllic, award-winning bicycle paths along the Niers with numerous castles and mills draw tourists from around the world. And the old market, water tower and famous Abtei-



The water tower is a landmark of the city of Mönchengladbach.

berg museum are not to be missed when visiting the metropolis on the North Rhine.

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